

# Places and Context Sensitive Design

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# Places and Context Sensitive design

- Frontiers: change
- Places: where people want to be
- Place builders: all of us
- Public involvement: citizen guidance
- Process: shared decision-making
- sacred cows and common sense



# Change

- Information
- Markets
- Settlement patterns
- Transportation responses
- Attitudes
- Practices
- Outcomes



## **Places**

- **Destinations**, where people want to be:
  - □ to live, to work, to shop, to learn, to congregate, to recreate
- The importance of *design* in the quality of place
- The "*purpose and need*" of every trip:
  - □ Why we took the trip in the first place, to get from some PLACE to some PLACE, and
  - Every trip begins and ends walking







## **Place Builders**

- *Transdisciplinary* we all build places
  - engineers, architects, planners, landscape architects
  - □ developers, lawyers, contractors, lenders
  - government agencies of all types and at all levels
  - □ most important, places are built by people, for people
- Who judges?
  - □ Our various professions?
  - □ The media?
  - □ Ultimately the people there, before and after



## **Public Involvement**

#### Information

□ full and transparent access

#### Vision

how can we make our places look, feel and work better

#### Trust

 building the bridges of trust between the people, government and the private sector

#### Action

□ all our work, together, must be geared toward action



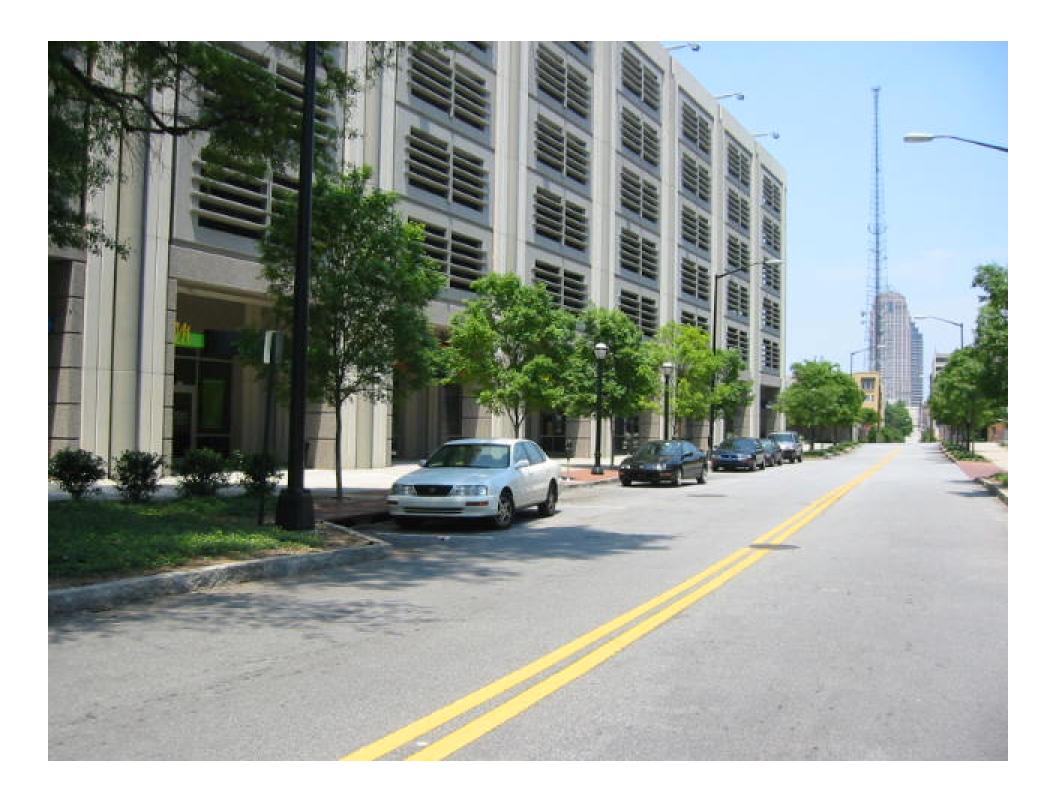
## **Process**

- Interactive, Democratic, Consensual
  - □ involving all the "players"
  - □ transdisciplinary leadership
  - shared decision-making
  - getting it done

VS.

- Linear, Hierarchical, Mandated
  - □ the old way







## Sacred cows and Common sense

- Obstacles to places and context sensitive design
  - □ Design year traffic projections
  - □ Levels of Service
  - Design speed
  - □ Safety and liability issues
  - ☐ Leave it to the "experts" attitude
  - □ Bad zoning

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